AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A magnetic transfer method for applying a transferring magnetic field in a state that a master medium for magnetically transferring in which a magnetic layer is formed in a portion corresponding to information signals on a surface of a substrate, and a magnetic recording medium which is a slave medium for being magnetically transferred, are in close contact with each other, comprising the steps of:

providing a magnetic generating device that is rotatably mounted on a magnetic transfer apparatus;

applying a magnetic field to the slave medium in a track direction of a slave surface to initial DC magnetize the slave medium previously in the track direction;

bringing the master medium and the slave medium into close contact with each other; and

applying the transferring magnetic field generated by the magnetic generating device in the track direction of a slave surface to execute a magnetic transfer,

wherein an application angle α of the transferring magnetic field is inclined ~~$0 < \alpha \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \alpha < 0$~~ $0 \leq \alpha < 30°$ or $-30° < \alpha \leq 0$ with respect to the slave surface, and

wherein an application angle β of the transferring magnetic field is $0 < \beta \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \beta < 0$ with respect to the track direction on a plane parallel to the slave surface.

2. (previously presented): A magnetic transfer method for applying a transferring magnetic field in a state that a master medium for magnetically transferring in which a magnetic layer is formed in a portion corresponding to information signals on a surface of a substrate, and a magnetic recording medium which is a slave medium for being magnetically transferred, are in close contact with each other, comprising the steps of:

applying a magnetic field to the slave medium in a track direction of a slave surface to initial DC magnetize the slave medium previously in the track direction;

bringing the master medium and the slave medium into close contact with each other; and

applying the transferring magnetic field in the track direction of a slave surface to execute a magnetic transfer,

wherein an application angle β of the transferring magnetic field is $0 < \beta \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \beta < 0$ with respect to the track direction on a plane parallel to the slave surface.

3. (previously presented): A magnetic transfer method for applying a transferring magnetic field in a state that a master medium for magnetically transferring in which a magnetic layer is formed in a portion corresponding to information signals on a surface of a substrate, and a magnetic recording medium which is a slave medium for being magnetically transferred, are in close contact with each other, comprising the steps of:

providing a magnetic generating device that is rotatably mounted on a magnetic transfer apparatus;

applying a magnetic field to the slave medium in a track direction of a slave surface to initial DC magnetize the slave medium previously in the track direction;

bringing the master medium and the slave medium into close contact with each other; and

applying the transferring magnetic field generated by the magnetic generating device in the track direction of a slave surface to execute a magnetic transfer,

wherein a sum of absolute values of an application angle α of the transferring magnetic field that is inclined with respect to the slave surface and an application angle β of the transferring magnetic field with respect to the track direction on a plane parallel to the slave surface is greater than 0 and less than or equal to 30°, and

wherein the application angle β is $0 < \beta \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \beta < 0$.

4. (currently amended): A magnetic transfer apparatus for applying a transferring magnetic field in a state that a master medium for magnetically transferring in which a magnetic layer is formed in a portion corresponding to information signals on a surface of a substrate, and a magnetic recording medium which is a slave medium for being magnetically transferred, are in close contact with each other, which comprises:

a magnetic field generating device that applies the transferring magnetic field to the slave medium in close contact with the master medium in a track direction,

wherein an application angle α of the transferring magnetic field by the magnetic field generating device is inclined ~~$0 < \alpha \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \alpha < 0$~~ $0 \leq \alpha < 30°$ or $-30° < \alpha \leq 0$ with respect to a slave surface, and

wherein an application angle β of the transferring magnetic field by the magnetic field generating device is $0 < \beta \leq 30°$ or $-30° \leq \beta < 0$ with respect to the track direction on a plane parallel to the slave surface.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the magnetic transfer copies the information on the surface of the master medium to the slave medium.

6. (previously presented): The method of claim 2, wherein the magnetic transfer copies the information on the surface of the master medium to the slave medium.

7. (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the magnetic transfer copies the information on the surface of the master medium to the slave medium.

8. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the magnetic transfer copies the information on the surface of the master medium to the slave medium.

9. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the track direction is a tangential to a circumferential track on the slave surface.

10. (previously presented): The method of claim 2, wherein the track direction is a tangential to a circumferential track on the slave surface.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the track direction is a tangential to a circumferential track on the slave surface.

12. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the track direction is a tangential to a circumferential track on the slave surface.

13. (previously presented): A magnetic transfer apparatus for applying a transferring magnetic field in a state that a master medium for magnetically transferring in which a magnetic layer is formed in a portion corresponding to information signals on a surface of a substrate, and a magnetic recording medium which is a slave medium for being magnetically transferred, are in close contact with each other, which comprises:

a magnetic field generating device that applies the transferring magnetic field to the slave medium in close contact with the master medium,

wherein the magnetic generating device is rotatably mounted on the magnetic transfer apparatus such that an application angle α of the transferring magnetic field by the magnetic field generating device is adjustable within a range of $\pm 30°$ with respect to a slave surface on a plane perpendicular to the slave surface, and an application angle β of the transferring magnetic field by the magnetic field generating device is adjustable within a range of $\pm 30°$ with respect to the track direction on a plane parallel to the slave surface.